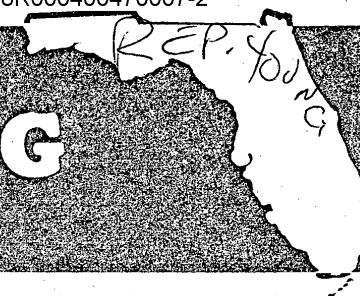


From Congressman



BILL YOUNG

Florida's Sixth District



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WASHINGTON — The CIA warned the Carter Administration as early as January 31, 1980 that a large scale exodus from Cuba was a likely occurrence. Nevertheless, the Administration was taken by surprise when Castro opened the gates, freeing almost 100,000 Cubans. This was revealed in a report released today by the House Intelligence Committee's Oversight Subcommittee.

U.S. Representative C. W. Bill Young (R-Fla.), a member of the Subcommittee, in his additional views to accompany the report pointed out that not only did the Carter Administration ignore the CIA's warnings but has done little to get other countries to take their share of the burden.

The Subcommittee revealed that as early as January 8, 1980 the CIA had reported that the Castro regime had responded to Cuban discontent by instituting the more severe repressive measures including "the appointment of hardliner Romiro Valdez as Minister of Interior."

The reported Castro crackdown on dissent was followed by a CIA warning on January 31st that, "the Castro regime may again resort to large-scale emigration to reduce discontent caused by Cuba's deteriorating economic condition."

Congressman Young noted that CIA analysts had obtained a secret Castro speech of December 27, 1979 that spelled out the economic disaster that Communism has brought to Cuba. In answer to the "counter-revolutionaries" who complain, Castro said, "we will build whatever jails may be necessary."

Congressman Young, who was at Eglin Air Force Base and Key West to watch the processing of the refugees on May 9th was impressed by the cooperation shown by the FBI and CIA personnel at the sites to solve the serious counterintelligence problems created by such a large influx of refugees. The Florida Congressman also referred to the fact that, "Despite bureaucratic problems created in Washington the men and women on the scene did a magnificent job. We watched as Marines, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard personnel worked with Customs, Immigration Service, Border Patrol, as well as State and local authorities to speed the processing and ease the plight of the refugees."

Congressman Young called on the Administration to make it clear that although Castro created the refugee problem, its solution was the responsibility of all countries, not just the United States. He called the new exodus, "clear evidence of the failure of Communism in Cuba."

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